

**The National Science Foundation (NSF) program solicitation for**

**Math and Science Partnership (MSP)/NSF 10-556**

**Program Summary: Full details at:** <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2010/nsf10556/nsf10556.htm>

* **Full Proposal Deadline(s)** (due by 5 p.m. proposer's local time):July 08, 2010 (Institute Partnerships, MSP-Start Partnerships, Phase II Partnerships, RETA Projects)
* October 14, 2010 (Targeted Partnerships)

**Synopsis of Program:**

The Math and Science Partnership (MSP) program is a major research and development effort that supports innovative partnerships to improve K-12 student achievement in mathematics and science. MSP projects are expected to raise the achievement levels of all students and significantly reduce achievement gaps in the mathematics and science performance of diverse student populations. In order to improve the mathematics and science achievement of the Nation's students, MSP projects contribute to what is known in mathematics and science education and serve as models that have a sufficiently strong evidence/research base to improve the mathematics and science education outcomes for all students. NSF's MSP program coordinates its effort with programs of the U.S. Department of Education in the expectation that effective innovations in mathematics and science education will be disseminated into wider practice.

1. The eligibility requirement for Principal Investigator of a Partnership proposal has been removed, but the Solicitation reinforces the requirement that Partnerships must have significant engagement of mathematicians, scientists and/or engineers who are college/university faculty members with regular appointments in disciplinary units and have a history of publishing in the discipline (not only education of the discipline). **At a minimum, a research mathematician, scientist and/or engineer from a core partner institution of higher education must be a co-Principal Investigator and a member of the Partnership Leadership Team. In addition, a K-12 representative from a core partner K-12 organization must be a co-Principal Investigator and a member of the Partnership Leadership Team.** As Partnerships are to be based on research findings in teaching and learning, and conduct research of their work, the **Partnership Leadership Team should include at least one individual with the necessary expertise in this area.**
2. An Additional Review Criteria focused on engagement of mathematics, science and/or engineering faculty members has been added.
3. A nonprofit organization eligible to serve as a lead institution for a partnership project is defined…
4. The maximum amount for a Targeted Partnership proposal is $10 million for a project duration of up to 5 years.
5. For this solicitation, MSP (RETA) has been broadened to encourage submissions in any of the three elements - research, instrument development or technical assistance.
6. The Innovation through Institutional Integration (I3) track is not included in this solicitation as the due date for I3 proposals has passed for this year.

**NSF seeks to support five types of awards:**

1. ***Targeted Partnerships*** focus on studying and solving teaching and learning issues within a specific grade range or at a critical juncture in education, and/or within a specific disciplinary focus in mathematics or the sciences;
2. ***Institute Partnerships - Teacher Institutes for the 21st Century*** focus on meeting national needs for teacher leaders/master teachers…
3. ***MSP-Start Partnerships*** are for awardees new to the MSP program, especially from minority-serving institutions, **community colleges and primarily undergraduate institutions,** to support the necessary data analysis, project design, evaluation and team building activities needed to develop a full MSP Targeted or Institute Partnership;
4. ***Phase II Partnerships*** are for prior NSF MSP Partnership awardees…
5. ***Research, Evaluation and Technical Assistance*** *(****RETA)* projects…**

**Anticipated Type of Award:**  Standard Grant or Continuing Grant

**Estimated Number of Awards:**    17 to 27   for MSP projects including; 3-5 Targeted Partnerships, 3-5 Institute Partnerships, 5-7 MSP-Start Partnerships, 3-5 Phase II Partnerships and 3-5 RETA awards, pending availability of funds.

**Anticipated Funding Amount:**  $42,000,000 in FY2011 (pending the availability of funds for the MSP program.)